



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re the Application of:

Masuo OHNISHI et al.

Serial Number: 09/184,878

Group Art Unit: 2835

Filed: November 3, 1998

Examiner: L. FEILD

For: ELECTRONIC APPARATUS AND DISK UNIT MOUNTING MECHANISM

SUBMISSION OF APPEAL BRIEF

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 19, 2001

Sir:

Submitted herewith are an original and two copies of an Appeal Brief in the above-identified U.S. patent application.

Attached please find a check in the amount of \$310.00 to cover the cost for the Appeal Brief.

If any additional fees are due in connection with this submission, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340. This paper is filed in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appeal
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1 of 3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF APPEALS
APPEAL BRIEF FOR THE APPELLANTS

Ex parte Masuo OHNISHI et al.

ELECTRONIC APPARATUS AND DISK UNIT MOUNTING MECHANISM

Serial Number: 09/184,878

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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In re the Application of:

Masuo OHNISHI et al.

Serial Number: 09/184,878

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For: ELECTRONIC APPARATUS AND DISK UNIT MOUNTING MECHANISM

APPEAL BRIEF

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 19, 2001

Sir:

This is an appeal from the Office Action dated January 31, 2001 (Paper No. 14) in which claims 1, 2, 4-6, 7/5, 7/6, 8/5, 8/6, 9/5, 9/6, 14-17/1, 17/4, 17/5, 17/6, 18-21, 24-29, 30/5, 30/6 and 31/21 were finally rejected.

The Advisory Action of July 17, 2001 indicates that, in view of Appellants' Amendment After Final Rejection of June 29, 2001, claims 10-13, 14/10, 14/12, 15/10, 15/12, 16/10, 16/12, 17/10, 17/12, 22, 23 and 31/22 are now allowed.

A Notice of Appeal and a Petition for Extension of Time were timely filed on July 31, 2001.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is the assignee of the subject application, which is:

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II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellants know of no other appeals or interference proceedings related to the present appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 5, 6, 7/5, 7/6, 8/5, 8/6, 9/5, 9/6, 15/5, 15/6, 20-21, 30/5, 30/6 and 31/21 on appeal have been finally rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,463,527 to Hager et al. (hereinafter "**Hager et al.**").

Claims 1, 2, 4, 14/1, 14/4, 14/5, 14/6, 15/1, 15/4, 16/1, 16/4, 16/5, 16/6, 17/1, 17/4, 17/5, 17/6, 18, 19 and 24-29 have been finally rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,673,171 to Vaughese et al. (hereinafter "**Vaughese et al.**") in view of U.S. Patent 6,021,041 to Genix et al. (hereinafter "**Genix et al.**").

Claims 10-13, 14/10, 14/12, 15/10, 16/10, 16/12, 17/10, 17/12, 22, 23 and 31/22 have been allowed.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

All amendments have been entered, except for the amendments contained in the Response After Final Rejection filed June 29, 2001.

V. CLAIMS ON APPEAL

A clean copy of claims 1, 2 and 4-31 on appeal is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

VI. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention generally relates to electronic apparatuses and disk unit mounting mechanisms, and more particularly to an electronic apparatus and a disk unit mounting mechanism having a shock-resistant mounting structure for a disk unit such as a hard disk drive (HDD) in a portable electronic apparatus such as a notebook type personal computer.

In the present invention, the electronic apparatus is mounted with a disk unit 1 and includes a vibration and/or shock absorbing member 3 which absorbs vibration and/or shock provided between the disk unit 1 and a lid member 2 which covers a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus; and an electrically insulative sheet member 6 provided between the disk unit and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member 3. (Fig. 2; specification, pg. 12, lines 1-16 and 29-33)

The vibration and/or shock absorbing member 3 provided between the lid member and the disk unit may be formed by a plurality of small pieces. (Fig. 2; specification, pg. 12, lines 17-20)

The apparatus includes vibration and/or shock absorbing members 3, 4 provided between the disk unit 1 and an inner bottom surface and an inner side surface of a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus, and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member 3 provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member 4 provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface are made of mutually different materials. (Fig. 2; specification, pg. 14, lines 6-30)

These entirely different materials have mutually different vibration and/or shock absorbing characteristic and/or different hardnesses. (Fig. 2; specification, pg. 14, line 35 to pg. 15, line 17)

The apparatus includes a plurality of vibration and/or shock absorbing members 3,4, having different thicknesses, provided with respect to at least one of confronting surfaces of the disk unit and a disk unit and a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus, so that a thicker one of the vibration and/or shock absorbing members absorbs up to a predetermined vibration and/or shock and a thinner one of the vibration and/or shock absorbing members absorbs vibration and/or exceeding the predetermined vibration and/or shock. (Fig. 2; specification, pg. 16, line 18 to pg. 17, line 21)

VII. THE ISSUES

1. Whether the invention, as recited in Appellants' claims 5, 6, 7/5, 7/6, 8/5, 8/6, 9/5, 9/6, 15/5, 15/6, 20, 21, 30/5, 30/6 and 31/21 on appeal, is anticipated by **Hager et al.**; and

2. Whether the invention, as recited in Appellants' claims 1, 2, 4, 14/1, 14/4, 14/5, 14/6, 15/1, 15/4, 16/1, 16/4, 16/5, 16/6, 17/1, 17/4, 17/5, 17/6, 18, 19 and 24-29 on appeal, is unpatentable over **Vaughese et al.** in view of **Genix et al.**

VIII. GROUPING OF THE CLAIMS

Rejected claims 5, 6, 7/5, 7/6, 8/5, 8/6, 9/5, 9/6, 15/5, 15/6, 20, 21, 30/5, 30/6 and 31/21 on appeal stand or fall together because they are covered by the same 35 USC §102(b) rejection.

Rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 14/1, 14/4, 14/5, 14/6, 15/1, 15/4, 16/1, 16/4, 16/5, 16/6, 17/1, 17/4, 17/5, 17/6, 18, 19 and 24-29 stand or fall together because they are all covered by the same 35 USC §103(a) rejection.

IX. ARGUMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE ISSUES

A. THE REFERENCES

Hager et al discloses a suspension system for disk drives utilizing shear loaded elastomeric supports of different durometer hardnesses and elastomeric pads.

As disclosed in claim 3, lines 37-53:

As shown in FIGS. 5 and 6, prior to inserting the disk drive 12 into the housing 14, a disk drive assembly 62 is made including the brackets 32 as previously described and shock absorber pads 64. There are a total of 12 shock absorber pads 64 provided in the preferred embodiment on the disk drive assembly 62, 4 on each of the left 28 and right 30 sides, and 2 on each of the top 24 and bottom 26 sides. The shock absorber pads 64 do not span all the way between the disk drive 12 and the housing 14, but an air space exists between the outer surface of each pad 64 and the confronting surface of the housing 14. In the preferred embodiment, this air space is approximately 0.075 inches at the top and bottom and 0.030 inches on each side, and the pads 64 are approximately 0.125 inches thick on the top and bottom and 0.150 inches thick on the sides. Therefore, greater air space and padding is provided on the top and bottom than on the sides.

All pads 64 consist of SORBOTHANE consisting of the same hardness.

Vaughese et al discloses a series of hard disk drives anchored to the top sides of perforated metal plates 62 disposed above the top sides of molded plastic support trays 38 in parallel relationships therewith. Sets of spaced-apart elastomeric cushioning members 70 have upper portions captively retained between each metal plate 62 and its associated plastic tray 38, and lower portions projecting downwardly beyond the tray 38.

Fig. 4 shows cushioning members 70 being attached to plastic tray 38, while metal plate 62 rests on the upper surface of the cushioning members 70.

Genix et al. discloses a PC board 22 containing at SIMM connectors 26.

B. SUMMARY OF EXAMINER'S REJECTIONS

1. The Examiner has rejected claims 5, 6, 7/5, 7/6, 8/5, 8/6, 9/5, 9/6, 15/5, 15/6, 20, 21, 30/5, 30/6 and 31/21 on appeal under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Hager et al.

The Examiner asserts that the disk drive vibration and shock isolation system of Hager et al. includes a disk unit 12, a plurality of small vibration/shock absorbing members 64, 68 between the disk unit and the bottom and side surfaces of a disk unit accommodating part 14, all of which are depicted in Fig. 4 and are inside a housing, as described at column 2, line 61. The Examiner urges that the members are composed of various types of materials with differing vibration/shock absorbing characteristics, as described at column 4, lines 3-4 (noting SORBOTHANE brand elastomer of hardness 30), and at column 5, lines 40-42 (noting SORBOTHANE brand elastomers of hardness 50, and 40), each with slightly variant chemical compositions. The Examiner notes that shock absorbing members 68 secured to disk unit 12 via tang 40, for example, place the members between the side of the disk and the side of the disk accommodating part.

Regarding claim 15 on appeal, the Examiner urges that Hager et al. teaches at column 5, line 39 that the vibration/shock absorbing members are adhered to a member confronting the disk unit.

2. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 14/1, 14/4, 14/5, 14/6, 15/1, 15/4, 16/1, 16/4, 16/5, 16/6, 17/1, 17/4, 17/5, 17/6, 18, 19 and 24-29 on appeal under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Vaughese et al. in view of Genix et al.

Regarding claims 1-4, 17, 18 and 24-29 on appeal, the Examiner asserts that the hard disk drive support apparatus 60 of Vaughese et al. includes a plurality of vibration/shock absorbing members 70 between a disk unit 10 and a lid member 39 which covers a disk unit accommodating part 78 provided in a housing 12, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4. In addition, there is a sheet member 62

provided between the disk unit and the vibration/shock absorbing members. The Examiner notes that because the disclosure in Vaughese et al. of two disk units satisfies the claim requirements that the sheet slides relative to the disk, because the top sheet of Vaughese et al. slides relative to the *lower* disk.

Regarding claim 14 on appeal, the Examiner urges that Vaughese et al. also depicts that the vibration/shock absorbing members are between the disk and an inner top surface of the disk unit accommodating part (Figs. 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 16 on appeal, the Examiner urges that Vaughese et al. discloses a portable electronic apparatus.

Regarding claim 19 on appeal, the Examiner urges that an alternate interpretation of the components comprising the apparatus of Vaughese et al. is afforded via the Office's mandate that the Examiner give the claims the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification. Consistent with this mandate, the Examiner suggests that the device of Vaughese et al. alternately shows a disk drive accommodating part 78, a lid member 38 and a vibration/shock absorbing member 60 formed by a plurality of small pieces 70, and a sheet member 62.

The Examiner admits that Vaughese et al. does not teach the sheet member between the disk unit and the vibration/shock absorbing member be electrically insulative. The Examiner urges that the computer system with shock absorbing members of Genix et al. includes an electrical inherently insulative sheet 22 between the disk unit 18 and the vibration/shock absorbing member 20. The Examiner alleges that PC boards are inherently electrically insulative by definition. The Examiner cites the Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary which states that a printed circuit board is "a flat board made of *nonconducting material*, such as plastic or fiberglass, on which chips and other

electronic components are mounted” (emphasis added). Therefore, the Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the device of Genix et al. with the device of Vaughese et al. to effect the claimed invention, especially in light of the express teaching of both references to provide shock and vibration isolation for computer disk drives, as well as the notoriously conventional nature of the kind of insulative sheets typified in the invention of Genix et al. Moreover, the Examiner urges that the design in Genix et al. expressly contemplates the work of Vaughese et al., as the former cites the latter.

C. APPELLANTS' ARGUMENT

1. Hager et al. fails to disclose the elements arranged as recited in claims 5, 6, 7/5, 7/6, 8/5, 8/6, 9/5, 9/6, 15/5, 15/6, 20, 21, 30/5, 30/6 and 31/21 on appeal, which stand rejected as anticipated under 35 USC §102(b).

In the Office Action of January 31, 2001, the Examiner urged:

The hardness for elements 64 and 68 which are used simultaneously is different and thus the materials are different. Element 68 is clearly a shock absorbing member and is mounted between the side of the disk drive and the side of the disk accommodating unit as described in the above rejection.

Appellants respectfully disagree.

Hager et al. clearly states that all elements 64, 68 are made of the same material, namely, SORBOTHANE, although elements 68 differ in hardness from each other somewhat.

Furthermore, although Hager et al. teaches various types of materials with differing hardnesses (or vibration/shock absorbing characteristics), it should be noted that Hager et al. does not teach using such various types of materials simultaneously for the shock/vibration members.

In other words, Hager et al. is silent regarding the simultaneous use of mutually different materials for the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided at one location and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided at another location within the electronic apparatus.

Hager et al. also does not teach that the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface is made of a material having a higher vibration absorbing characteristic than a material forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface, and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface has a higher shock absorbing characteristic than the material forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface, as in the present invention, as recited in claims 30 and 31.

2. The combination of Vaughese et al. and Genix et al. fails to teach, mention or suggest the elements arranged as recited in claims 1, 2, 4, 14/1, 14/4, 14/5, 14/6, 15/1, 15/4, 16/1, 16/4, 16/5, 16/6, 17/1, 17/4, 17/5, 17/6, 18, 19 and 24-29 on appeal, which were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Vaughese et al. in view of Genix et al.

It is a basic tenet of patent law that to justify the use of a particular combination of prior art references to find a claim unpatentable, there must be a showing that the references themselves embody the specific claimed combination. This teaching was affirmed by the PTO U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in *Ex parte Clapp*, 227 USPQ 972 (P.T.O. Bd. Pat. App. Int. 1985). This principle embodies the same concept propounded by the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in that, not only must there be a teaching in the prior art of the structural elements of appellant's claimed invention, the prior art itself must actually suggest that the structural elements be combined in a similar manner as the claimed invention. See, e.g., *Panduit*

Corp. v. Dennison Mfg. Co., 774 F.2d 1082, 227 USPQ 337 (Fed. Cir. 1985), **vacated on other grounds**, Dennison Mfg. Co. v. Panduit Corp., 475 U.S. 809, 229 USPQ 478 (1986).

Vaghese et al. discloses a series of hard disk drives anchored to the top sides of perforated metal plates 62 disposed above the top sides of molded plastic support trays 38 in parallel relationships therewith. Sets of spaced-apart elastomeric cushioning members 70 have upper portions captively retained between each metal plate 62 and its associated plastic tray 38, and lower portions projecting downwardly beyond the tray 38.

Fig. 4 shows cushioning members 70 being attached to plastic tray 38, while metal plate 62 rests on the upper surface of the cushioning members 70.

As admitted by the Examiner, **Vaghese et al.** fails to disclose any element which corresponds to the insulative sheet member of the present invention, the benefits of such being disclosed on page 24, lines 13-32 of the specification of the instant application.

The Examiner has cited **Genix et al.** for teaching an "inherently insulative sheet 22" between the disk drive unit 18 and mount 20.

Appellants respectfully disagree. Item 22 is a PC board 22, which contains at least SIMM connectors 26. Thus, PC board 22 is not electrically insulative, in contrast to the insulative sheet member 41 of the present invention, which is electrically insulative because it prevents moisture absorbed by vibration and/or shock absorbing members 42₁, 42₂, 42₃, 43₁, 43₂ and 43₃ from causing electrical short-circuits of any exposed circuits on the HDD 34, as disclosed on page 24, lines 25-32 of the instant application.

The Examiner has urged that the dictionary definition of the PCB board in Genix et al. states that the PCB is made of non-conducting material on which chips and other electronic components are mounted.

In contrast, the insulated sheet member claimed in the present invention is entirely insulative and contains no electrical components mounted on wiring circuits, as does the PCB 22 of Genix et al. The wiring circuits contained on the PCB 22 would provide electrical conductivity from one side to the other, even though the PCB itself is made of non-conductive material.

X. CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences is therefore respectfully requested to reverse the Examiner's rejection of the claims under 35 USC §102(b) and 35 USC §103(a) and compel the Examiner to mail out a Notice of Allowance.

In the event this paper is timely filed, Appellant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Appendix A containing Claims on Appeal

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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In re the Application of:

Masuo OHNISHI et al.

Serial Number: 09/184,878

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Filed: November 3, 1998

Examiner: L. FEILD

For: ELECTRONIC APPARATUS AND DISK UNIT MOUNTING MECHANISM

CLAIMS ON APPEAL

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 19, 2001

Sir:

The claims on appeal are 1, 2 and 4-31, presented below.

1. An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member which absorbs vibration and/or shock provided between the disk unit and a lid member which covers a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus; and

an electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member.

2. The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the lid member and the disk unit is formed by a plurality of small pieces.

4. An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member, formed by a plurality of small pieces and absorbing vibration and/or shock, provided between the disk unit and a lid member which covers a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus; and

an electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member.

5. An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:

vibration and/or shock absorbing members provided between the disk unit and an inner bottom surface and an inner side surface of a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus, and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface are made of mutually different materials.

6. An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:

vibration and/or shock absorbing members provided between the disk unit and an inner bottom surface and an inner side surface of a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus,

wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface are made of materials having mutually different vibration and/or shock absorbing characteristics.

7. The electronic apparatus as claimed in claims 5 or 6, wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface is made of a material having a higher vibration resistance than a material forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface.

8. The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 5 or 6, wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface is made of a material which is harder than a material forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface.

9. The electronic apparatus as claimed in any of claims 5 or 6, wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface of the disk unit accommodating part provided in the housing is formed by a plurality of small pieces.

10. An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:
a plurality of vibration and/or shock absorbing members, having different thicknesses, provided with respect to at least one of confronting surfaces of the disk unit and a disk unit and a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus, so that a thicker one of the vibration and/or shock absorbing members absorbs up to a predetermined vibration and/or shock and a thinner one of the vibration and/or shock absorbing members absorbs vibration and/or exceeding the predetermined vibration and/or shock.

11. The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the plurality of vibration and/or shock absorbing members are made of the same material.

12. An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:
a plurality of vibration and/or shock absorbing members, having different vibration and/or shock absorbing characteristics, provided with respect to at least one of confronting surfaces of the disk unit and a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus, so that a softer one of the vibration and/or shock absorbing members absorbs up to a predetermined vibration and/or shock and a harder one of the vibration and/or shock absorbing members absorbs vibration and/or shock exceeding the predetermined vibration and/or shock.

13. The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 10 or 12, wherein the plurality of vibration and/or shock absorbing members are made of materials having different hardnesses.

14. The electronic apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 10 or 12, wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member is also provided between the disk unit and an inner top surface of the disk unit accommodating part provided in the housing.

15. The electronic apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 10 or 12, wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member is adhered on a member confronting the disk unit.

16. The electronic apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 10 or 12, wherein the electronic apparatus mounted with the disk unit forms a portable electronic apparatus.

17. The electronic apparatus as claimed in any of claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 10 or 12 wherein the disk unit is a hard disk unit.

18. A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:
a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted;
a lid member covering the disk unit accommodating part;
a vibration and/or shock absorbing member which absorbs vibration and/or shock and is arranged between the lid member and the disk unit which is mounted; and
an electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member.

19. A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:
a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted;
a lid member covering the disk unit accommodating part; and
a vibration and/or shock absorbing member, formed by a plurality of small pieces and absorbs vibration and/or shock, arranged between the lid member and the arranged between the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member and the disk unit which is mounted; and

an electrically insulative sheet member arranged between the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member and the disk unit which is mounted.

20. A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:
a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted; and
vibration and/or shock absorbing members arranged between an inner bottom surface and an inner side surface of the disk unit accommodating part and the disk unit which is mounted,
wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member arranged between the disk unit which is mounted and the inner bottom surface and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member arranged between the disk unit which is mounted and the inner side surface are made of mutually different materials.

21. A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:
a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted; and
vibration and/or shock absorbing members arranged between an inner bottom surface and an inner side surface of the disk unit accommodating part and the disk unit which is mounted,
wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member arranged between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member arranged between the disk unit and the inner side surface are made of materials having mutually different vibration and/or shock absorbing characteristics.

22. A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:

a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted; and

a plurality of vibration and/or shock absorbing members having different thicknesses arranged with respect to at least one of confronting surfaces of the disk unit which is mounted and the disk unit accommodating part, so that a thicker one of the vibration and/or shock absorbing members absorbs up to a predetermined vibration and/or shock and a thinner one of the vibration and/or shock absorbing members absorbs vibration and/or shock exceeding the predetermined vibration and/or shock.

23. A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:

a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted; and

a plurality of vibration and/or shock absorbing members having different vibration and/or shock absorbing characteristics arranged with respect to at least one of confronting surfaces of the disk unit which is mounted and the disk unit accommodating part, so that a softer one of the vibration and/or shock absorbing members absorbs up to a predetermined vibration and/or shock and a harder one of the vibration and/or shock absorbing members absorbs vibration and/or shock exceeding the predetermined vibration and/or shock.

24. An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member which absorbs vibration and/or shock provided between the disk unit and a lid member which covers a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus; and

an electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member,

wherein said insulative sheet member is slidable with respect to said disk unit.

25. An electronic apparatus mounted with a disk unit, comprising:

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member, formed by a plurality of small pieces and absorbing vibration and/or shock, provided between the disk unit and a lid member which covers a disk unit accommodating part provided in a housing of the electronic apparatus; and

an electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member,

wherein said insulative sheet member is slidable with respect to said disk unit.

26. A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:

a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted;

a lid member covering the disk unit accommodating part;

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member which absorbs vibration and/or shock and is arranged between the lid member and the disk unit which is mounted; and

an electrically insulative sheet member provided between the disk unit and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member,

wherein said insulative sheet member is slidable with respect to said disk unit.

27. A disk unit mounting mechanism mountable with a disk unit, comprising:

a disk unit accommodating part accommodating the disk unit which is mounted;

a lid member covering the disk unit accommodating part; and

a vibration and/or shock absorbing member, formed by a plurality of small pieces and absorbs vibration and/or shock, arranged between the lid member and the arranged between the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member and the disk unit which is mounted;

an electrically insulative sheet member arranged between the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member and the disk unit which is mounted,

wherein said insulative sheet member is slidable with respect to said disk unit.

28. The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 24, wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the lid member and the disk unit is formed by a plurality of small pieces.

29. The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the insulative sheet member is provided between the disk unit and the plurality of small pieces forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing members.

30. The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 5 or 6, wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface is made of a material having a higher vibration absorbing characteristic than a material forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface, and the vibration

and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface has a higher shock absorbing characteristic than the material forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface.

31. The disk unit mounting mechanism as claimed in claim 21 or 22, wherein the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface is made of a material having a higher vibration absorbing characteristic than a material forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface, and the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner bottom surface has a higher shock absorbing characteristic than the material forming the vibration and/or shock absorbing member provided between the disk unit and the inner side surface.